Indiana Department of Education
2019 Legislative Priority

Increase STEM funding to $20 million

The Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE) six-year STEM Strategic Plan recommends increasing STEM funding to $20 million over the biennium which represents a 90% increase from the last budget cycle. In Indiana, STEM education in K-12 schools is vital to expose students to careers and pathways to the rising manufacturing, biotechnology, health science, and computer science industries. The plan outlines three strategic objectives for implementation across the State.

- **Improve STEM Instruction**: 100% of Indiana K-12 teachers will be trained in problem-based and inquiry-based approaches to learning by 2025.
- **Scale Evidence-Based Curriculum in Classrooms**: 100% of Indiana schools will implement integrated, evidence-based STEM curriculum by 2025.
- **Foster Early STEM Career Exposure**: 100% of Indiana schools will create and sustain robust STEM-related business and industry partnerships in order to inform curriculum, instruction, and student experiences to foster college and career readiness.

Quick Facts

- ❏ Nationally, students are twice as likely to study STEM fields compared to their parents, and 52% of parents believe there will be a significantly higher demand to fill STEM jobs in America in the next 10 years.

- ❏ Between 2017 - 2027, STEM jobs will grow 13% compared to 9% of all other jobs.

- ❏ Indiana has 5,010 open computing jobs - 3.2 times the average demand rate in Indiana.

- ❏ The average salary for a computing occupation in Indiana is $75,109, which is significantly higher than the average salary in the state ($43,950). The existing open jobs alone represent a $376,298,294 opportunity in terms of annual salaries.

- ❏ IDOE is conducting a solicitation for research to support the development of a comprehensive STEM plan and provide evidence-based data and analysis for the General Assembly in support of plan's goals.